

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
19 June, 1973

AM
10:00

CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

ADMINISTRATION

- A. Dates of next meetings: 19 September, 1973
17 October, 1973
21 November, 1973
- B. Approval of Minutes of May 17, 1973 meeting.
- C. Amendment, D.C. Building Code - 180 day delay in altering or razing historic structures - Joint Committee on Landmarks.
- D. S.520, 93rd Congress: To establish Capital Hill as an Historic District.
- E. Eisenhower Convention Center - Status Report.
- F. Bicentennial Program for Improvements to the Mall - Status Report.

SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

- A. D.C. Government, Dept. of General Services
 - 1. West Elementary School Replacement, Farragut and 13th Sts., N.W. - Proposed Design.
 - 2. Psychiatric Treatment Center Area B, Spring Road 13th St., N.W. - Proposed Design.
 - 3. Correctional Detention Facility, Massachusetts Avenue and 13th St., S.E. - Proposed Design.
- B. D.C. Government, Dept. of Economic Development
 - 1. Shipstead-Luce Act
 - a. George Washington University Physical Education Building, 600 22nd St., N.W. - Proposed Design.
 - b. Appendix 1.

2. Old Georgetown Act

Appendix 2.

C. Smithsonian Institution

National Zoological Park, Lion Hill Project -
Proposed Design.

D. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

1. Barracks for 400 Enlisted Men, Fort Myer, Virginia -
Revised Site Design.
2. Emergency Pumping Station, Little Falls, Virginia -
Proposed Design.

E. Department of the Interior, National Capital Parks

Seabee Memorial - Studies for Memorial Drive.

F. General Services Administration

Penthouse for the Department of Justice, the Federal
Triangle - Proposed Design.

INTERVIEWS

AM

11:00 Joint Committee on Landmarks, Henry Brylawski, Chairman -
Amendments to D.C. Building Code.

11:30 D.C. Government, Department of General Services

1. West Elementary School Replacement, Fry and Welch Assoc.
Architects.
2. Psychiatric Treatment Center Area B, Mariani and
Assoc., Architects.
3. Correctional Detention Facility, Thalheimer and Weitz,
with McDonald & Williams and Brown & Wright, Architects.

PM

12:00 D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development

George Washington University Physical Education Building,
Mill & Petticord Partnership, Architects.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
19 June, 1973

Meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. at the Commission of Fine Arts offices
at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Members Present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
 Hon. Nicolas Arroyo
 Hon. Jane O. Dart
 Hon. Chloethiel Woodard Smith
 Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.
 Hon. George Weymouth

Staff Present: Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
 Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
 Mr. William Bogan
 Mr. Jeffrey Carson
 Mr. J.L. Sibley Jennings, Jr.
 Miss Lynda Smith

National Capital Planning
Commission Staff Present: Mr. Edward Hromanik

D.C. Department of General
Services Staff Present: Mr. Charles Pavlick

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings: 19 September, 1973, Wednesday
 17 October, 1973, Wednesday
 20 November, 1973, Tuesday

B. Minutes of May 17th, 1973, Meeting, approved.

C. Amendment to the D.C. Building Code - 180 Day delay in
altering or razing historic structures - Joint Committee on Landmarks.
The Chairman told the Members of a letter received from Mr. Henry
Brylawski, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Landmarks, asking the
Commission to approve and back a proposed D.C. Building Code amend-
ment which could delay, up to 180 days, either demolition or altera-
tion of items listed in the National Register, on the D.C. Landmarks
list, or in an historic district. The Commission had discussed the
delay in demolition proposal at its May, 1973, meeting and favored
it; the word "alteration" had been added. The Secretary pointed out
that "alteration" put the proposed regulation into the design review
business, conflicting with the intent of Congress in establishing
the Old Georgetown Act and the Shipstead-Luce Act. Design review was
the purview of the Commission of Fine Arts and not the Joint Committee

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on Landmarks. The Commission agreed to continuing their support of the proposal without the word "alteration", and to offer Mr. Brylawski the Commission's support and services in other ways. Mr. Brylawski was scheduled to appear later in the day.

D. S. 520, 93rd Congress: To establish Capitol Hill as an Historic District. The Assistant Secretary informed the Commission of a bill now in the District Committee introduced by Senator Cranston of California to make Washington's Capitol Hill section an historic district. This area of brick row houses had been built during the second half of the 19th Century and was experiencing a self-generated renewal. The proposed law would make this a building permit controlled area similar to Georgetown administered by the Commission of Fine Arts with advice from a board appointed by the Mayor.

E. Eisenhower Convention Center - Status Report. The Assistant Secretary reported on a preliminary staff meeting with architects for the project in hopes of coordination with the Commission of Fine Arts at the earliest possible time. The site south of Mount Vernon Square at 10th and H Streets, N.W., had been approved by the Commission during legislative review. The Secretary pointed out that the design did not include on-site parking, and that efforts were being made to coordinate this facility with nearby transportation facilities and hotels. The Commission reaffirmed their interest in following the project closely and were delighted to see this major facility being designated for the downtown area.

F. Regency-Hyatt House Hotel at New Jersey and E Streets, N.W. The Assistant Secretary showed the Commission a perspective sketch of a proposed 900-room hotel planned for downtown Washington. Commission review would come in the earliest stages through the Shipstead-Luce Act. The masonry-clad building would be in the expressed module-structure vernacular seen in most new buildings in its immediate vicinity. Noteworthy were an open courtyard closed off from the street by an upper level bridge, and proximity to the new Union Station Visitors' Center and the Eisenhower Convention Center. Further developments would be shown the Commission as developed.

G. Potomac Electric Power Company Substation, 10th and Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. The Secretary told of the necessity of moving this facility from its present location downtown, in the way of the Eisenhower Convention Center, to the Massachusetts Avenue site. In an effort to save time and money the Electric Company was reusing plans for another facility at 11th and O Streets, N.W. The Secretary and the Assistant Secretary had inspected the sites and examined the prototype building, finding them unfortunate. The existing building was yellow brick with dark polished granite vertical stripes. Overall building height was 60 feet. The proposed site is on one of the city's most important avenues, near a main entrance to the Capital's downtown, hardly a place

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for a huge electric substation. The Secretary pointed out that the location, although important, was not in the Fine Arts jurisdiction, and that there could be no review of the project. Construction had already started. He indicated that he had been in contact with the planning department of PEPCo and had asked if it would be possible to change the exterior colors to simplify and minimize the visual impact of this facility. The planning department had not given a clear response.

H. Shipstead-Luce Act boundary changes. The Secretary told the members that all of the above subjects were related to a need for expanding the Commission's role in coordinating Federal, city, and private developments in special areas of the city. In particular he cited downtown with its multitude of planning programs and proposed projects mixed in with undesignated landmark status buildings - all with no central coordination, nor design review. He suggested an immediate extension through existing executive channels in the Mayor's office. He further indicated that some of the special streets and avenues of the city should have this type of protection. The special streets had been defined by the National Capital Planning Commission over ten years before. Mrs. Smith suggested that the original L'Enfant City could be designated by the Shipstead-Luce Act as one complete special district. The members concurred that perhaps starting with the old city and working down to the scale of downtown could be as effective as the more modest beginning suggested by the Secretary. The Chairman asked that the staff prepare briefs and support material for a meeting between himself and the Mayor and that the matter be pursued over the summer. The members approved this course of action.

I. Bicentennial Program for Improvements on the Mall - Status report. The Secretary made a brief report on anticipated plans for Mall-wide 1976 facilities. He indicated that the Park Service had requested a permanent liason for its coordinating committee on this matter and the Commission approved this.

J. National Christmas Tree. The Chairman told the Commission that a response to environmentalists would result in the planting of a permanent National Christmas Tree near the White House. Giving up the practice of cutting and delivering a very large annual tree for placement on the center of the Elipse necessitated finding a suitable permanent location. Showing a map with the White House, part of the Mall, and Lafayette Square, he discussed several alternate possibilities. The Commission favored the concept of a permanent tree and suggested a location on the East-West cross axis of Lafayette Square - not on the alignment of the White House and Sixteenth Street, but to the side. This would have the advantage of readymade comfort stations, nearby electric, wide permanent in-place walks, and a residential scale. Such a location would also be good for drive-by viewing and photographing the tree and the White House together. Mrs. Dart suggested

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placing lights in the winter-bare deciduous trees on the perimeter of Lafayette Square as is done in several European cities. Mrs. Smith expressed hope that future animal exhibits could be more savory to sight and smell. The Chairman suggested that much of the junk involved with previous exhibits and stages could be eliminated in the future. The Commission in general approved the concept, suggesting that a permanent tree could be combined with a well-executed "Festival of Peace" which could include the whole of Lafayette Square in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Avenue front of the White House.

Exhibit A.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. D.C. Government, Department of General Services

1. West Elementary School Replacement, Farragut and 13th Streets, N.W. - Proposed Design. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and a model for this learning center-type school. With an exterior of split-faced block and a standing seam metal roof, the Commission found the plan and appearance excellent. The special features of the learning areas broken down with partially separated adjacent spaces and ceiling pitch changes were well coordinated with clerestory windows and skylights. The Commission felt there was no need for an interview with the architect and simply approved the design.

Exhibit B.

2. Psychiatric Treatment Center Area B, Spring Road and 13th Street, N.W. - Proposed Design. The Assistant Secretary showed the Commission preliminary drawings and a model of this addition to an older existing building. The Commission agreed that the existing building had little architectural merit and that there would be no point in trying to match it. As shown, the design used a scale similar to that of adjacent townhouses and would be initially two floors with an added third floor in the future. A rooftop play area made the most of a restricted site, and a small amount of inpatient parking was provided to the side of the new building and to the rear of the existing building. The Commission had no objection to the design, but suggested that a set of elevations showing the full eventual height of the building should be seen. Confirmation of the full design would be made as these drawings were developed.

Exhibit C.

3. Correctional Detention Facility, Massachusetts Avenue and 13th Street, S.E. - Proposed Design. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings showing landscaping for this jail building previously approved by the Commission. The drawings showed little more than completion of the existing street tree pattern, with and without the Massachusetts Avenue extension from 19th Street, S.E., to the Anacostia River. The Commission had no comment until a meeting with the architect later in the morning.

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B. D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. George Washington University Physical Education Building, 600 22nd Street, N.W. - Proposed Design. The Secretary presented drawings and a model of this 5000-seat athletic and rehabilitation facility. The University proposed to locate the main entrance on 22nd Street and a temporary parking lot to the West on 23rd Street, which would eventually be the site for an office or classroom building. The Secretary pointed out that 23rd Street was a "special street" as designated by the National Capital Planning Commission and was the link between Washington Circle and the Lincoln Memorial. As such, the proposed location of the parking and service for the building would be on the monumental side of the site. The Commission felt that the design for the building was not objectionable, but that the building built on its 23rd Street side would be a very great asset. Interim landscaping and a high quality six-foot wall screening the parking would make the design temporarily acceptable. The Secretary told that the University president and the architects would be present later in the morning.

2. Appendix 1, approved.

Exhibit D.

Old Georgetown Act

Appendix 2, approved.

Exhibit E.

C. Smithsonian Institution

National Zoological Park, Lion Hill Project - Proposed Design. The Secretary presented drawings and a model of this non-architectural solution to outdoor exhibits for lions and tigers with underground offices and two indoor exhibit cages. The trefoil design consisted of three moated hills with heated den niches surrounded by a continuous curved pedestrian way. The Commission questioned the program requirement for many offices and few exhibits on the interior, but withheld further comment until a meeting with project representatives later in the day.

D. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

1. Barracks for 400 Enlisted Men, Fort Myer, Virginia. The Assistant Secretary showed drawings for this garden apartment style barracks to confirm changes made in response to the Commission's previous advice. A parking lot between the complex and the public highway had been eliminated, enabling the complex to have a more generous resiting and landscaping. The Commission approved the revisions.

Exhibit F.

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2. *Emergency Pumping Station, Little Falls, Virginia - Proposed Design.* The Secretary presented a series of drawings for this proposed addition to the equipment for the Washington water supply. The facility would be used to pump additional water out of the Potomac River during low water periods. If the river were high or flooded the facility would be closed and the machinery removed. The Secretary pointed out that there was no way to landscape the structure because of rocks, flooding, etc. The site was, however, in a very scenic part of Little Falls. The design showed a concrete piered structure with a side sluice, drive, and parking apron. The Commission felt that the structure was conspicuously homely, and should not be permitted in such a scenic area. Exhibit G.

E. Department of the Interior, National Capital Parks

Seabee Memorial - Studies for Memorial Drive. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings for two schemes incorporating the central figures and bas relief in a niche along the hedge of Memorial Drive. The two schemes differed only in curvature of the back-up hedge. The Chairman reviewed the previous site inspections and examination of the sculpture on May 17th, 1973. Mr. Weymouth expressed hope that the Commission could urge the Seabees to start fresh on a new sculpture design for the new site. The consensus of the Members was that the figures could be used in a square niche, to match exactly the adjacent Byrd Memorial, and that the bas relief should not be used. A meeting was scheduled for later in the morning with project representatives.

F. General Services Administration

Penthouse for the Department of Justice, the Federal Triangle - Proposed Design. The Assistant Secretary showed the members an aerial photograph of the Federal Triangle and working drawings for a proposed service elevator penthouse. The structure would be set back from the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and Ninth Street, N.W., of the same materials as the building and would have no discordant openings. The detailing would match existing chimneys, etc. The Commission had no objections. Exhibit H.

III. INTERVIEWS

A. Joint Committee on Landmarks

Amendments to the D.C. Building Code - Henry Brylawski, Chairman. The Secretary introduced Mr. Brylawski to the members. The Chairman indicated that the Commission had studied the proposed changes granting up to 180 days in delay for razing or altering a duly registered landmark. Mr. Brylawski briefly discussed the Joint Committee's interest in having the Commission of Fine Arts recommend

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passage of the amendment to the City Council as soon as possible. The Chairman told Mr. Brylawski that the Commission could only recommend that portion of the amendment concerned with razing. The members pointed out that review of alteration got the Joint Committee on Landmarks into the design review process, which has been the role of the Commission of Fine Arts, particularly in the Georgetown and Shipstead-Luce areas. The Chairman stated that the Commission would continue to rely on the Committee's landmark identification role, and would be glad to contribute design review to the Committee as the historic preservation activities in the District of Columbia were further developed. Exhibit I.

B. D.C. Government, Department of General Services

Correctional Detention Facility, Thalheimer, Weitz and MacDonald, Williams, Brown, Architects. The project was represented by Mr. Charles Pavlick of the Department of General Services and Mr. Leon Brown, one of the architects. Mr. Brown showed the Commission sketches for alternate brick perimeter walls for this jail facility. He stated that the actual height and design had not yet been arrived at between the architects and the Department of Corrections. The Commission advised landscaping techniques and a minimum of stepping in the wall's profile. Further details would be shown to the Commission as developed. No action was taken. Exhibit J.

C. D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development

George Washington University, Physical Education Building, Mills and Petticord Partnership, Architects. The project was represented by Dr. Lloyd H. Elliott, President of the University, Mr. Diehl of the University, and architects George W. Petticord, Jr. and Robert W. Wening, Jr. The Chairman welcomed the group and told them of the Commission's approval of the basic building design in view of severe and unusual constraints. The Chairman gave the suggestion that the 23rd Street parking lot be screened with a high quality wall at the sidewalk and good plant material, and that the service areas of the Gymnasium be well detailed and screened. The parking lot could also have fewer parking spaces and more trees. The project representatives agreed to these requests and President Elliott stated that the parking lot would be removed and a building built between the Gymnasium and 23rd Street within five years. This building would conform to the specifications set forth in the National Capital Planning Commission Special Streets Study.

D. Smithsonian Institution, National Zoological Park

Lion Hill Project. The project was represented by Dr. Theodore Reed, Director of the Zoo, Mr. Norman Melum, Zoo staff architect, and Mr. Avery Faulkner, consultant architect. Dr. Reed

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explained the function of the project, stating that the design fulfilled the Zoo's program requirements very well. He further stated that the design concept for year-round outdoor lion and tiger exhibits was new and certain features were unique to zoo design. The Chairman questioned the quantity of office space in the project compared with the two indoor cages. Dr. Reed explained that this was part of the original concept of the project and was in order. The Commission approved the project. Exhibit K.

E. Department of the Interior, National Capital Parks

Seabee Memorial. The project was represented by Capt. Williams and Cdrs. Kelley and Oswald of the Seabees, Felix deWeldon, sculptor, and Anthony Harrer, architect. After preliminary greetings and discussion of drawings presented the Chairman told the party of the Commission's disapproval of any niche for Memorial Drive which was not rectangular in shape and conforming to the Park Service Master Plan. He also told of the Commission's disapproval of using the bas relief or side tablets in the niche. The Commission's approval of this site would permit, but not require, use of the central figure group now owned by the Seabees. Further study of the Memorial Drive site was requested by the Commission. Exhibit L.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Signed,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary



THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO

CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH

JANE O. DART

EDWARD STONE, JR.

KEVIN ROCHE

GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

22 June, 1973

Dear Mr. Dickenson,

The members of the Commission discussed possible sites for a permanent Christmas tree at our meeting on 19 June, 1973.

The Sylvan Theater site has the advantage of doing away with the need for a temporary stage, which is a decided plus, but the remoteness from the White House would appear to outweigh it. To the same extent, the locations on the northwest and northeast corners of the Ellipse suffer similar deficiencies, not in terms of physical remoteness, but visual - the tree and the White House cannot be seen together in either location.

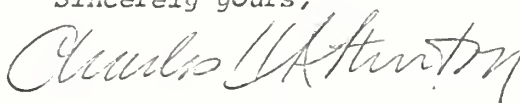
Which leads us to Lafayette Square.

This would seem to be an ideal location from many points of view: easily accessible and highly visible to the public, beautifully related to the White House, a traditional setting with the 19th Century residences decorated for Christmas, and unlike the Ellipse, a landscape where a large conifer will be prominent but not obtrusive. The existing utilities and the extensive network of permanent paths would also do away with the need for so many temporary facilities, none of which has been particularly attractive in the past, to say the least.

As to a specific site, why not midway between the Jackson statue and the fountain on the east side of the park? Just to the west are facilities for the small stage used for summer programs, which I am sure could be suitably adapted, and possibly the terraces and steps leading to the Court of Claims on Madison Place could be used for caroling and other musical events.

As to lighting, the old houses on the square are to be illuminated by GSA in the near future. They are also illuminated on the inside, and together with the White House they will provide a considerable level of light and, more importantly, a festive and warm atmosphere. Such is not the case on the Ellipse, and with no artificial lights on the tree, there's a possibility it might be a dreary display.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charles H. Atherton". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping tail on the "n".

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Russell Dickenson, Director
National Capital Parks
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

22 June, 1973

Dear Col. Starobin,

I am happy to report the approval of preliminary designs for the West Elementary School at 13th and Farragut Streets, N.W., which the Commission reviewed on June 19th, 1973. Both planning and design have been worked out very well, which is particularly commendable since the program is hampered by the need to maintain the existing school on a relatively restricted site during construction of the new building.

There is one point, however, that the Commission would like to bring up at this time that is not only pertinent to this project, but to all other school designs based on the open classroom concept of usage.

We feel that the large open spaces that have been common to all the recent submissions to the Commission may actually limit flexibility rather than accomodate it as it is meant to. I speak specifically of the possible need at some point in the teaching process for the more traditional spaces; confined, controlled, or otherwise physically and visually apart from the larger classroom areas. While the Commission does not take issue with the present program format which calls for these large "common" areas for teaching, we believe it would be a valuable part of any submission if the architect were to demonstrate how, if the need arose, such smaller closed areas could be incorporated in the open classroom scheme. After all, the "open" approach is still somewhat innovative, and there is not total agreement on its applicability to all teaching situations. In our opinion it would be a worthwhile investment if a variety of classroom configurations were possible in all new school construction.

Exhibit B.

The Commission is interested in your reaction to these comments.

Our next regular meeting is scheduled for September 20, 1973, but we are certainly available for consultation at any time during the interim period.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charles H. Atherton".

Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
by direction of the Chairman

Lt. Col. Sam D. Starobin, Director
Department of General Services
Government of the District of Columbia
613 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

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CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

22 June, 1973

Dear Col. Starobin,

At its meeting of 19 June, 1973, the Commission of Fine Arts approved preliminary plans for the Psychiatric Treatment Center Area B on Spring Road and 13th Street, N.W.

The only request the Commission has is to see how the final third story addition will appear in relation to the present two story proposal.

This will not require a formal submission, but merely submission of the elevation drawings for inspection by the staff.

Sincerely yours,



Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
by direction of the Chairman

Lt. Col. Sam D. Starobin, Director
Department of General Services
Government of the District of Columbia
613 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Exhibit C.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

19 June, 1973

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
SL 73-49	5200 27th St., N.W. R.H. & J.E. Fleming	Two story frame , single family dwelling 24' x 46'.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 6/5/73	
50	404 1st St., S.E. Lily Gordon	Retail store, 1 story with mezzanine; store front of masonry, glass, and aluminum.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Character of proposed design is not suitable. Request that architects meet with Fine Arts staff. 6/15/73	
51	2737 Devonshire Place, N.W. Real Equity Inv. Corp.	Construct decorative fountain.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 6/5/73	
53	1345 E St., N.W. American Snacks Inc.	New sign, brown opaque letters on ivory opaque background.
ACTION:	Issue permit for opaque letters on opaque background. 6/18/73	
54	2626 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Savage-Fogarty Co.	Revisions to new office building design, previously approved by CFA.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit for this design. Recommend design as approved in S.L. 73-36. 6/18/73	
55	2020 Pierce Mill Road H.H. Jensen	9' x 8' exterior deck.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 6/18/73	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

19 June, 1973

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
OG 73-140	3146 M St., N.W. Door Store, Inc.	two small signs above door, black and white paint on oak
ACTION:	Do not issue. Suggest single height sign across transom bar with uniform height and well spaced capital letters. 5/31/73	
141	3130 M St., N.W. Cosmopole Corp.	erect sign 12 1/2' x 2 flat against bldg; one sign 1' x 8'
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Ikaros letters on upper building not recommended. Lower sign permitted if extraneous words are omitted: "Airborne, Souvlaki, Different, Delicious, Hot Pizza." Transom sign over door should be omitted. 5/31/73	
142	1301 35th St., N.W. T. Ray Sullivan	Replacement of old wooden fence with new wooden stackade fence
ACTION:	Issue permit 5/31/73	
143	3310 M St., N.W. Michael Schwering	Install exterior wood sign
ACTION:	Issue permit. 5/31/73	
144	3251 M St., N.W. Empire Mgt. & Dev. Co.	Folding awning over front window.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. No objection to awning without scallops. Suggest white stripe be omitted, and awning be solid red color per sample. 5/31/73	
145	3288 M St., N.W. Brass Tacks, Inc.	Small dome canopy made of steel and canvas (awning)
ACTION:	Issue permit for awning without scallops only. 5/31/73	
149	1720 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. Grant Holladay	Two story addition over existing one story masonry bldg.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Paired double hung windows not recommended. Cornice treatment not recommended. Suggest ripping existing parapet to existing cornice, leaving existing cornice, similar to present and buildings south of 1730 Wisconsin. 5/31/73	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

19 June, 1973

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
OG 73- 150	1259 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. CJ Concepts	Repaint and Reletter existing sign.
ACTION: Do not issue permit. Design and location of proposed sign not recommended. Existing "import closeout" sign was put up without Fine Arts approval. Recommend removal of existing sign. Suggest simplification or refinement of letter style. Consider painting sign on glass or placing sign behind show window. 6/13/73		
151	1047 Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W. Georgetown-Inland North Corp.	Remove existing building.
ACTION: Issue permit. 6/13/73		
152	1048 30th St., N.W. Georgetown-Inland North Corp.	Remove existing bldg. at west edge of lot. Duval Foundry is not to be demolished.
ACTION: Issue permit. 6/13/73		
153	3056 M St., N.W. Nature's Products	Wood sign for health food store, with yellow background and green letters.
ACTION: Do not issue permit. No objection to size, location of sign. Products shall not be named on sign. Suggest restudy of letter spacing and thickness. Consider painting heavier letter or applying letters to background. 6/13/73		
155	1048 Potomac St., N.W. James L. Dixon Co.	Canvas canopy over door.
ACTION: Do not issue permit. No objection to awning of solid green, omitting scallops. 6/13/73		
157	3318 Volta Place, N.W. Col. E.E. Myers	New windows in east wall as per plans.
ACTION: Issue permit. 6/13/73		

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

19 June, 1973

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
OG 73-158	1805 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. General Electric Co.	New door cut in existing building.
ACTION: Do not issue permit. No objection to cutting door. Suggest new door have head and side trim to match main door. Suggest new single door match existing door. 6/13/73		

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

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CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

22 June, 1973

Dear Mr. Resta,

This will confirm the Commission's approval of revised site and building plans for the 400-man barracks at Fort Myer, Virginia which were reviewed at our meeting on 19 June, 1973.

It is requested that a sample of the brick wall, showing mortar color and bond, be erected for inspection on the site, prior to final selection by the contractor.

Sincerely yours,



Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
by direction of the Chairman

Mr. R.H. Resta, Chief
Engineering Division
Department of the Army
Baltimore District, Corps of Engineers
Post Office Box 1715
Baltimore, Maryland 21203

Exhibit F.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO

JANE O. DART

KEVIN ROCHE

CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH

EDWARD STONE, JR.

GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

22 June, 1973

Dear Col. Prentiss,

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on June 19, 1973, reviewed plans for the emergency pumping station located in the Potomac estuary just below Little Falls.

The scenery along this portion of the river is particularly beautiful and because of its proximity to Washington, is highly visible to the public. It also is the gateway, you might say, of the Potomac to the tidal plain which forms the major portion of the Capital's setting. For this reason it is important that as little intrusion as possible be permitted.

The Commission therefore recommends that the pumping station be set back from the bank rather than perched right on the edge. Water could be channelled into the gates through tunnels or a pipe.

Secondly we recommend that the building mass be a single form, eliminating the various projections for equipment such as the gates and rooftop facilities at the corners.

We will be glad to meet with your staff members and go over possible alternate schemes at any time and at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,



Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
by direction of the Chairman

Col. Louis W. Prentiss, Jr.
District Engineer
Department of the Army
Baltimore District, Corps of Engineers
Post Office Box 1715
Baltimore, Maryland 21203

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

22 June, 1973

Dear Mr. Packard,

Plans for the small elevator penthouse to be projected above the roof of the Justice Department Building on Pennsylvania Avenue were approved by the Commission at its meeting on June 19, 1973.

While there was no problem with this particular projection, it was stressed that this should not be construed as an approval for similar ones on other buildings in the Federal Triangle. The roofscape of this monumental group is an important part of the overall design and should not be cluttered up with extraneous shapes or equipment.

Sincerely yours,



Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
by direction of the Chairman

Mr. J.L. Packard, Director
Design and Construction Division
Public Buildings Service
General Services Administration
Washington, D.C. 20405

Exhibit H.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

22 June, 1973

Dear Mr. Nevius,

At our last meeting of the Commission on June 19, 1973, the members considered a draft amendment to the building code that would provide a mechanism for the delay in demolition of historic buildings. This proposed change is being sought by the Joint Committee on Landmarks. As one of the sponsoring agencies of this Committee, the Commission of Fine Arts fully endorses the purposes of this amendment insofar as it relates to demolition. Unfortunately the proposed change also provides for delay of permit in any historic structure which is to be altered, both inside and out.

We are opposed to this provision and recommend that any references to alterations be deleted.

Our principal reason is this: if a property owner of an historic structure, or a structure in an historic district, proposed alterations that are objectionable to the Landmarks Committee, then it naturally follows that the property owner will seek recommendations of the Committee on what is acceptable. That automatically expands the role of the Committee in an advisory capacity on architectural matters and puts yet another agency into the business of aesthetics and design review. At a time when our efforts are focusing on ways to simplify District Government operations, this would appear to be running against the tide.

There are other weaknesses to this amendment as well. No mention is made of properties where condemnation proceedings may have been initiated by the District Government due to insanitary or unsafe conditions. This is an old loophole with which those of us associated with administering the Old Georgetown Act are all too familiar. An owner desiring to raze a structure for one reason or another merely has to let his place deteriorate to the point where the city has to declare it a nuisance, and require the owner to either correct the situation or remove it. I can think of a

number of valuable structures that have been razed in this manner, most recently 1222 Wisconsin Avenue, one of the few remaining 18th Century structures in Georgetown. It would seem that any sensible changes to the code should correct this situation.

We therefore hope no immediate action will be taken on the proposed amendment in its present form.

The intentions of the amendment are good, in fact indispensable, if any truly workable historic preservation program is to be implemented in the Capital. It is the word "workable", however, that is the key.

We are giving close study to ways of improving and strengthening the amendment, and should have the results of our study ready in the near future. In the meantime, the Commission will be happy to respond to any request by the Council for consultation on the entire matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charles H. Atherton".

Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
by direction of the Chairman

Hon. John A. Nevius, Chairman
District of Columbia City Council
Room 507, District Building
14th & E Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

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CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

22 June, 1973

Dear Col. Starobin,

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on 19 June, 1973, reviewed further studies of landscape plans for the Correctional Detention Center on 19th Street, S.E.

We were glad to see that the siting, entrances, and parking do not interfere with the right-of-way of Massachusetts Avenue, but apart from that, there wasn't much else to react to. Most of the planting proposed was in public space, to be accomplished by the highway department, and the design of the surrounding wall, especially in regard to the height, appeared to be unresolved as to its program requirements.

When they are worked out in detail, the Commission would like to see the resulting design.

Our next meeting is scheduled for 20 September, 1973.

Sincerely yours,



Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
by direction of the Chairman

Lt. Col. Sam D. Starobin, Director
Department of General Services
Government of the District of Columbia
613 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Exhibit J.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

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GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

22 June, 1973

Dear Dr. Reed,

This will confirm the Commission's approval of the Lion Hill Project conceptual designs reviewed at our meeting on June 19, 1973.

While there was deviation from the previously approved plans with the introduction of substantial office space within the animal display, we can accept this change provided your assurances hold up that interior spaces are adequate as presently planned.

We expect to review detailed drawings and material samples in the usual manner prior to commencement of actual construction.

Our next meeting is scheduled for 20 September, 1973, and we will be happy to review this material whenever convenient.

Sincerely yours,



Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
by direction of the Chairman

Dr. Theodore H. Reed, Director
National Zoological Park
Washington, D.C. 20009

Exhibit K.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

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CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

22 June, 1973

Dear Mr. Dickenson,

As a result of our review of the Seabees Memorial on 19 June, 1973, the following points emerged as a basis for further studies for the site on Memorial Drive.

- Foremost of these is the adherence to the long-standing master plan establishing the dimensions and rectangular form for the niches lining the avenue.
- As the bas-relief, in its present form, will not fit within the given dimensions, it should be eliminated.
- The Commission will consider a proposal including the two existing free-standing sculptures in a niche of the proper dimensions.
- We do not recommend reverting to a more "obscure" site for the sake of preserving the present design in its entirety.
- We welcome a fresh approach to the design with a specific site on Memorial Drive as a given part of the program.

The next regular meeting of the full Commission is scheduled for 20 September, 1973, and we will be happy to discuss the matter further at that time.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charles H. Atherton". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
by direction of the Chairman

Russell Dickenson, Director
National Capital Parks
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C.

